

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1880.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the Ends thou Aims't at, be thy Country's, thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHERN, Established June, 1846

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THE WAR IN AFRICA.

GEN ROBERTS CAPTURES A SUBURB OF JOHANNESBURG.

London, May 29.—The following dispatch has been received from Lord Roberts: "Germiston, May 29, 6 30 p. m.—We arrived here this afternoon without being seriously opposed. No casualties as far as I am aware in the main column, and not many, I trust, in the cavalry and mounted infantry. The enemy did not expect us till tomorrow and had not, therefore, carried off all their rolling stock. We have possession of the junction connecting Johannesburg with Natal, Pretoria and Kimberley by railroads."

"Johannesburg is reported quiet, and no mines, I understand, have been injured."

"I shall summon the commandant in the morning, and if, as I expect, there is no opposition, I propose to enter the town with all the troops at noon."

Germiston is a suburb to the south-east of the Johannesburg railway junction. Additional evidence that the mines are intact comes in a message received by a mining company here today from its Johannesburg representative, dated May 28, via Delagoa bay, saying "all right."

Lord Roberts' dispatch is regarded as announcing the virtual occupation of Johannesburg, and apparently the Boers have again effected a retreat, as there is no mention of any prisoners or captures except of rolling stock.

There will be some little anxiety pending the actual occupation of Johannesburg, as there are rumors that the town has been mined with the intention of blowing up Lord Roberts and his staff on their entry into that place.

London, May 30, 3 30 a. m.—Lord Roberts is bivouacking in the suburbs of Johannesburg and intends to make a victorious entry at noon today judging from his dispatch, he must have private information regarding the disposition of the garrison in the fort, as he does not seem to expect opposition.

Lord Roberts' cavalry have flowed on beyond Johannesburg. A portion is understood to be at Zwartkops, seven miles north of Johannesburg and within 20 miles of Pretoria. Lord Roberts, although with a broken bridge at Vermeulen and a wrecked railway behind him has somehow managed to get forward sufficient supplies for his large force.

As he has been able to do so much, it is considered possible that he will be outside of Pretoria Friday. The rapidity of his advance is thought an extraordinary achievement, even by grading continental critics. The Boers, who were expected to fight along the line of hills known as Klipriviersberg, abandoned the eastern end of the range near Lord Roberts' advance line, but they stood their ground on the extreme right near Van Wyckstrand, where they met Gen. French's turning movement. The fight continued all day and the result is as yet mere conjecture. Probably the Boer rear guard succeeded in keeping Gen. French off and is now in the hills northwest of Johannesburg.

FORTS EVACUATED AND KRUGER AND TROOPS LEAVE CITY.

London, May 31, 2 a. m.—The Daily Mail publishes the following dispatch from the Earl of Roslyn who was a prisoner at Pretoria, but who, as a civilian, appears to have been released:

"Pretoria, Wednesday, May 30, 11.45 a. m.—Pretoria will be occupied in about two hours, without resistance. The president has gone to Waterfall-boven. Burgomaster De Sousa is authorized to receive the British. He, with an influential committee of citizens, including Chief Justice Gregor Gregorowski, has been appointed to preserve life and property during the interregnum."

"Everything is quiet but crowds are waiting expectantly in Church square for the arrival of the British."

"Fearing a possible disturbance and bloodshed among the prisoners of war at Waterfall, U. S. Consul Hay and Leigh Wood insisted upon 20 officers being liberated on parole to go to the

men. His action cannot be too highly praised."

"I was permitted to accompany the officers. Everything was quiet." Pretoria, Wednesday, May 30.—At a public meeting called this morning by the burgomaster of Pretoria, a committee was appointed to keep the public order.

Pretoria, Wednesday, May 30.—British officers are now at Johannesburg dictating terms of surrender.

The British advance guard is half way between Johannesburg and Pretoria. It is reported that there is a force also at Hatherly.

All the forces have been dismissed from the forts around Pretoria. President Kruger is now at Waterfall-boven.

BULLER'S MOVEMENTS.

London, May 30.—The following dispatch has been received at the war office from Gen Buller:

"Newcastle, May 30.—The enemy having formed a larger east of the town at Dornberg, pressed my right annoyingly. On May 27 I directed a force under Hildyard, by Woldadrift and Utrecht, and another under Lytleton by Schagadrift, on Dornberg. These movements have caused the enemy at Dornberg to retire north."

"Hildyard is at Utrecht and the town has surrendered. Clary is bombarding Laing's Nek. The enemy are much disheartened and were they not in such very strong positions I doubt if they would show fight. The railway was opened to Newcastle on May 28th."

Pretoria Not Yet Occupied and Large Bodies of Boers Resting Roberts' Advance.

London, May 31.—The following dispatch from Lord Roberts has been received at the war office:

"Johannesburg, May 31, 2 p. m.—Her majesty's forces are now in possession of Johannesburg and the British flag floats over the government buildings."

London, June 1, 3 55 a. m.—Belated messages from Pretoria confirm the reports of the departure of President Kruger with his cabinet and staff officials Tuesday night and the selection at a meeting of citizens of a committee to administer the city provisionally.

Since these telegrams left on Wednesday nothing apparently has reached Lorenzo Marques by telegraph from Pretoria.

Possibly the wires have been cut. Possibly the Boer censorship at some intermediate point intercepts telegrams.

Although the war office has not received a word about it no one in London harbors the idea that the Boer capital is not already in the hands of the British or about to be there. The possession of Johannesburg, at all events, as Lord Roberts has telegraphed, is a fact. State's Attorney Smuts did not depart with President Kruger, but remained in Pretoria.

The present seat of the Boer government, according to a dispatch from Lorenzo Marques, dated yesterday is Middleburg, but it will probably be shifted farther east.

The Boers lately confronting Lord Roberts appear to have gone eastward also, toward the Lydenburg region. The defenders of Laing's Nek, when their position becomes too perilous, will probably trek straight northward toward Lydenburg. When this concentration takes place there will be possibly 20,000 men who may hold out for a time, with scattered bands of guerrillas elsewhere.

Mr. Prevost-Battersby, in a dispatch to the Morning Post from Germiston, dated May 30, says: "The enemy fought a rear guard action, retiring from the south to the north of the town with their pompos and artillery in the morning and withdrawing their rifle-men through the town in the afternoon. We captured nine engines and over a hundred wagons. Two trains are leaving tonight for the Vaal."

"We succeeded in cutting the line in three directions and imprisoning all the rolling stock in Johannesburg. It was a splendid piece of work. The enemy were astounded at the rapidity of our advance."

Another correspondent telegraphing from Germiston the same day, says: "The Boers are massing six miles south of Pretoria, for a new and desperate stand with a front of 12 miles."

PRETORIA NOT OCCUPIED.

London, May 31.—Lord Roberts' latest dispatch shed a somewhat different light on the military situation. Before they were received celebrations were organized in the country towns in honor of the fall of Pretoria. In Chester a public holiday was declared, while at Dover, Portsmouth and many other places in the provinces flags were flown and rejoicings were general. Pretoria, however, is not yet in the hands of the British, though there is no reason to doubt the authenticity of the report that Kruger has evacuated the place and that the municipality is ready to surrender when confronted by superior numbers.

Though the British seem certain to reach Pretoria within a day or so they are not likely to occupy it without fighting. Lord Roberts' forces will be placed to the south, west and north of Johannesburg. These units will probably be reconcentrated while Gen. French makes an advance.

Pretoria should be reached by June 2, opposition or no opposition. Gen. Brabant's loss of 40 men is striking evidence that the annexation of the Free State by no means implies its pacification.

So thoroughly is the country here imbued with the belief that Pretoria has fallen that Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, the secretary of state for the colonies, speaking today at a meeting of the University of Birmingham proposed a message to the queen congratulating her upon the capture of Johannesburg and Pretoria, which was sent to the afternoon newspapers.

The afternoon newspapers all acknowledge the prompt friendliness of the United States consul at Pretoria, Mr. A. S. Hay, in insisting on the release of a number of British officers to take command of the British prisoners in order to avert a disturbance among the latter.

Lord Cecil Manners, son of the Duke of Rutland and who is acting as a newspaper correspondent, was among the prisoners captured by the Boers during Lord Roberts' advance May 29.

London, June 2, 3 45 a. m.—Lord Roberts continues silent regarding Pretoria, probably because he cannot wire of events from his own knowledge. Lorenzo Marques, where all the news from the Boer side is rehandled, cables that communication with Pretoria is now suspended.

Some messages by courier have reached Lorenzo Marques, but none of later date than Wednesday. These assert that the burghers are in a state of panic and that Pretoria is being controlled by a vigilance committee. Lorenzo Marques again sends a report that President Kruger has been captured.

The news blank gives rise to a suspicion that a citizen committee at Pretoria may not have been able to carry out their plans for securing the peaceful entry of Lord Roberts and sparing the city the horrors of a siege.

The peace party appeared to be in the ascendant; and, as soon as President Kruger and his cabinet left Pretoria to organize a new capital, the citizens' committee persuaded the commandants of the forts to withdraw some of the troops from the defenses, perhaps with the view of keeping order in the town. It looks as though there was a Boer force between Pretoria and Johannesburg.

These soldiers trekking back toward Pretoria, some of them fresh from the fight with Gen. Hamilton would have brought a new element into the situation and would probably overrule the peace committee taking the direction of affairs out of their hands.

The Boers, according to a special dispatch from Lorenzo Marques, have reentered the northeastern territory of the Free State and are engaged with the British near Petersburg and Harlemith.

It is reported from Amsterdam that the best rooms at Het Haasje, one of the principal hotels there, have been engaged for President Kruger's occupancy from June 25.

Gen Buller is moving slowly against the Boer flanks.

A dispatch from Vryburg dated May 30 says: "During the occupation of this place by the Boers they flogged the natives for slight offenses. A whip and several cords knotted and salted were found at the police station. A boy who brought a letter to a woman received 25 lashes and another who sympathized with him received 15."

Lady Georgiana Curzon has cabled £17,000 to provide comforts and luxuries at Mafeking.

WARREN SURROUNDED.

Cape Town, May 31.—Gen Warren with 700 men occupied a strong defensive position at Fabersput on May 29. At dawn he found that he was surrounded and he was fiercely attacked by 1,000 rebels.

The horses were stampeded, but the force concentrated and the Boers were repulsed.

A small party in a garden continued to fight tenaciously, but evacuated as the charge began, leaving a number of wounded.

The British lost 15 killed, including Col Pence, and 30 wounded.

REPORTS ARE CONFLICTING.

London, June 2, 4 30 a. m.—The Times has the following from Lorenzo Marques, dated June 1: "Reports of the most conflicting character are current here, due to the activity of the Boer agents. While one section declares that President Kruger has returned to Pretoria for the purpose of arranging terms of surrender, another asserts that the British have been repulsed outside of Pretoria. Nothing authentic is known here regarding Mr. Kruger's whereabouts or the situation in the Transvaal."

Anarchy And Bloodshed in China.

Minister Conger Asked for Marine Guard for Consulate.

Washington, May 29.—Such advice as have reached here indicate that the situation in China has assumed a very critical phase, and one calculated to tax the entire resources of the Chinese government. The state department has been in close communication with Mr. Conger, our minister at Peking, and the navy department is doing its share, having placed the flagship Newark as far up the Pih-Ho river as the Taku forts, which is the nearest point to Peking that the ship can reach.

The operations of the "boxers" are increasing in magnitude. Their demonstrations are no longer local and they appear to be governed in their movements by some well settled design. They have murdered nine Methodist missionaries in one province, at the town of Puchow, and have closed in on Peking. Meanwhile the Chinese army is suspected of disloyalty, this belief being strengthened by wholesale desertions of the soldiers to the "boxers."

Minister Conger has appealed to the state department for the protection of a marine guard for his legation. The department has promptly cabled him an authorization to call upon the nearest United States naval vessels for assistance. It is not known yet whether he has availed himself of the permission. The embarrassing feature of the situation is the cutting of communication by rail between Taku and Tien Tsin and the capital, for the "boxers" have burned the railroad bridges and there are probably only two courses open to marines who wish to reach Peking: a long overland march through a hostile country away from supports or a tedious voyage up the swift and shallow Pih-Ho in shore boats in tow of steam launches.

According to reports the Chinese government has done everything in its power to meet the demands of the diplomatic body at Peking for the dispersion of the "boxers," but it appears that the uprising is far more serious than was at first apprehended, and even the resident ministers at Peking are inclined to admit that the task is not an easy one for the Chinese government.

So far all of the measures taken by the state department look to the simple protection of the American legation at Peking, the American consulates in the vicinity, and the lives of such Americans as may be obliged to take refuge therein in the event of general rioting. The state department is closely adhering to the practice it has always observed of non interference in these Chinese disturbances, and it is not contemplated that our naval forces shall take any part in the contest between the Chinese government and the "boxers," though it is assumed that Rear Admiral Remy, the commander-in-chief of the Asiatic station, will take immediate steps to supply Rear Admiral Kempf, the senior squadron commander, with such naval force as he may need for safeguarding American interests at the treaty ports.

Half a Dozen Powers Land Troops at Tien Tsin.

Tien Tsin, May 30.—The rescue party of Frenchmen and Germans returned from Chang-Hain-Tien this afternoon. They confirm the report that the besieged Belgians are now safe at Peking. They found several thousand "boxers" about the ruins of In Kow Chiao and Chang Hain Tien stations. The bridges have been damaged and the rolling stock destroyed. At both places the damage done is considerably greater than at Fang Tai. The members of the rescue party saw several bodies of Chinese tearing up the sleepers and in one case a mandarin was looking on. They further report that the commissaries and others escaped from Pao Ting Fu in boats.

The imperial railway directory is endeavoring to fasten the blame for the damage at Fang Tai on the foreign employees, practically the British, whom, they say, should not have left their posts. The foreigners, however, did not leave until they saw In Kow Chiao station, five miles away, in flames and an attack had actually been made on an engine from Fang Tai which was running on the Han line in an attempt to rescue the Belgians.

The foreign men of war have arrived. Five Russian warships and two Russian gunboats; one French warship two British warships and one Italian warship. They are all landing men.

Tien Tsin, May 30.—American, British, Japanese, German, Italian, Russian and French troops to the number of 100 each have been ordered

ed to guard their respective legations at Peking but the viceroy here will not allow them to proceed hence to Peking on the railway without the authority of the Tzung Li Yamen. One hundred and eight Americans with a machine gun and a field gun landed here last night amidst great enthusiasm on the part of the residents. Five Russian and one British have arrived at Taku and the British are now landing.

Other warships are hourly expected.

Three thousand Chinese troops from Lu Tai are expected here today en route to Fang Tai.

Their is a disposition here to believe that the "boxers" will disperse before the foreign troops are ready to act.

Tien Tsin is in no danger.

Arrival of Foreign Blue Jackets Improved Situation.

Washington, June 1.—Minister Conger at Peking reports to the state department today that the arrival of 350 guards for the legations of Russia, France, Great Britain, Italy, Japan and the United States has had the effect of improving the situation. He says that Peking is much quieter but that the "boxers" are still active in the surrounding country.

It is hinted in diplomatic circles here that the sudden increase of activity on the part of the "boxers" is nothing more than part of a well conceived plan by one of the great European powers to secure a permanent trade lodgement in Peking and to seize a position giving it full control of the great Pih-Ho river, the approach to the Chinese capital. It is further intimated that the plan has proved abortive, owing to the alertness of the other European powers represented in Chinese waters, particularly to the readiness of the United States minister, Mr. Conger, and the American rear Admiral on board the Newark, which at once gave the movement an undesired international aspect, and so tended to prevent the particular nation concerned from aggrandizing itself at the expense of the interests of the other nations. Therefore, it is assumed, that the excitement will rapidly abate, and the "boxers" will disperse, temporarily at least.

The Southern's Rates.

New York, May 31.—The new Southern freight classification will go into effect tomorrow, superseding the classification made last winter, and which went into effect Feb. 1. The latter classification was made in uniformity with those made by the roads in trunk line and western territory and by which a large number of goods were raised from a lower to a higher grade, thus increasing freight rates considerably over what they had been before.

At that time protests were entered against these changes on the ground that they widened the differences in rates already existing in favor of the large shippers as against smaller ones. As a result the trunk lines issued an amended classification which remedied to some extent the causes of the complaint. The Southern classification committee held a meeting to consider these protests, but the result was not acceptable to the shippers, as there were no general modifications made before the classification of Feb. 1 remaining in effect without any material changes. The new classification which is to go into effect tomorrow is still less satisfactory to the shippers than the one which is to replace.

Timmonsville, May 29.—John L. Byrd, a tenant on the plantation of ex-Senator J. W. Beasley, of Darlington County, was killed last night in Darlington County 15 miles north of this place. Particulars are meagre, but it is ascertained that Mr. Byrd was shot while sitting in his house. The bullet went through a broken window pane. The person who shot him is not known, but it is supposed that a negro with whom he recently had trouble did the work. Mr. Byrd had trouble with him a few days ago and is said to have whipped him.

The Sons of Veterans

Louisville, June 1.—The United Sons of Confederate Veterans today elected Biscoe Hindman of Louisville commander-in-chief and after commencing their business adjourned sine die. The Sons of Veterans will meet next year in the same city that the United Veterans meet in and at the same time.

THOMAS CONVICTED SENTENCED TO HANG

And Beaufort People Triumph Over Lawless Passions.

Beaufort, May 31.—George Thomas, who criminally assaulted Mrs. Doubledy near Hardeeville, Easter Sunday, was tried today, convicted and sentenced to be hanged. Mrs. Doubledy, upon whom the assault was made, was the first witness. She testified under great stress and feeling, but clearly and emphatically. She identified the negro absolutely. Her father, who is a sturdy and honest old countryman, wept when he told of his daughter's misfortune, and other witnesses testified about the capture and the identification of the negro Thomas.

W. J. Whipper, the negro attorney, who defended Thomas, conducted the defence in a very proper and considerate manner. His cross examination of all the facts possible for his client, was tactful and unobjectionable. The defense put up no testimony. Whipper, who is noted for his eloquence, started his address to the jury by stating that he would as soon think of turning loose a Bengal tiger or a Namidian lion upon a community as a man guilty of the crime of which Thomas stood accused. He rested the defence on the fact that Thomas had not been fully identified.

In his Charge, Judge Gary was brief but forcible. The jury was out just so long as it was necessary to write the verdict of guilty. Thomas was immediately sentenced to be hanged on the 29 day of June. He took the sentence indifferently, and throughout the trial showed no interest whatever.

Before passing sentence of death, Judge Gary complimented the citizens of the county upon the law-abiding qualities displayed in having so orderly a trial in such a case. There was no excitement or disturbance of any sort.—The State.

W. S. Taylor Fugitive From Kentucky.

Bench Warrant Issued For Arrest of Former Governor.

Frankfort, Ky., May 31.—Judge Cantrill today directed Circuit Clerk Ford to issue a bench warrant for the arrest of former Gov. Taylor. The warrant is based on an indictment secured several weeks ago charging Taylor with being an accessory to the assassination of Wm. Goebel.

A warrant was issued and placed in the hands of Deputy Sheriff John Suter.

The issuance of a bench warrant was the first official notice that an indictment had been returned naming former Governor Taylor as an accessory to the murder of Wm. Goebel. It had been rumored for weeks that the indictment had been returned but the officials refused to either confirm or deny it. The indictment was filed and entered on record April 19.

In our utilitarian age the German plan of planting fruit trees for shade along highways is not likely to be overlooked. In Alsace Lorraine the wayside orchards, which are turned out by the State, now yield an annual revenue of 150,000 francs, and Switzerland, Belgium and Luxemburg are successful borrowers of the idea. In France the chief shade trees are the poplar, the ash and the elm, which on the national roads are cut for timber at the age of about 60 years. Fruit trees—such as the cherry, the pear, the apple and the plum—now appear on the roads for several departments instead of these forest trees, and the French government is likely to become one of the world's great growers of fruit.

Florence, June 1.—Yesterday afternoon at Winoona a southbound freight train struck two little negro boys, killing the younger and injuring the other perhaps fatally. The boys were sons of Henry Grant, a respectable negro farmer. It is supposed that the two boys were asleep on the track. As they were lying between the crossties, Engineer Temple did not see them until too late.

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